

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1 1. A method for providing correspondence information to a personal digital assistant
2 (PDA) device from a handheld device, the method comprising:
3 retrieving the correspondence information from a memory;
4 translating the correspondence information into a format utilized by an operating
5 system of the PDA device; and
6 transmitting the translated correspondence information to the PDA device via a
7 wireless channel.

2 2. The method of claim 1 further comprising:
3 verifying the operating system of the PDA device in response to an input command
4 indicative of a type of PDA device.

3 3. The method of claim 1 further comprising:
4 receiving correspondence information from a second PDA device;
5 translating the received correspondence information into a standardized format;
6 storing the translated and received correspondence information into the memory
7 storage.

1 4. The method of claim 1 wherein the correspondence information is programmed into
2 the memory storage.

1 5. The method of claim 1 wherein the correspondence information comprises at least
2 one of business card information and calendar appointment information.

1 6. The method of claim 5 wherein the business card information comprises at least one
2 of a name of a person, an address, a telephone number and a title of the person.

1 7. The method of claim 5 wherein the calendar appointment information comprises at
2 least one of an appointment time, a location of the appointment, a telephone number, and
3 a name of a person.

1 8. The method of claim 1 wherein the wireless channel comprises an infrared signal
2 path.

1 9. The method of claim 1 wherein the translating of the correspondence information
2 is different for different types of PDA devices.

1 10. An apparatus for providing correspondence information to a personal digital
2 assistant (PDA) device, the apparatus comprising:

3 a translator, configured to retrieve correspondence information and translate the
4 retrieved correspondence information into a format utilized by an operating system of the
5 PDA device; and

6 an interface port, coupled to the translator, for transmitting the correspondence
7 information to the PDA device via a wireless channel.

1 11. The apparatus of claim 10 wherein the translator comprises:

2 a memory for storing a data translating program; and

3 a microprocessor, coupled to the memory, for translating the correspondence
4 information upon executing the data translating program.

1 12. The apparatus of claim 10 wherein the translator verifies the operating system of the
2 PDA device prior to retrieving correspondence information.

1 13. The apparatus of claim 10 further comprising:

2 a selector, coupled to the translator, configured for providing an input command to
3 initiate the translator.

1 14. The apparatus of claim 10 further comprising an electrical programmable read only
2 memory (EPROM).

1 15. A hand held device, comprising:
2 a memory containing information consisting of business card information, calendar
3 appointment information and at least one operating system;
4 a processor configured to access the information contained in the memory;
5 an input/output device configured to transmit information to and receive information
6 from a wireless channel; and
7 a power source configured to supply power to at least the processor.

1 16. The hand held device of claim 15 wherein the information further consists of a
2 translator program configured to translate the business card information and calendar
3 appointment information into a format usable by another operating system.

1 17. The hand held device of claim 15 wherein the at least one operating system
2 comprises a plurality of operating systems.

1 18. A data transfer system, the system comprising:
2 a first personal digital assistant (PDA) device configured to receive correspondence
3 information; and
4 a data dispenser, configured to provide correspondence information to the first PDA
5 device, the data dispenser comprising:
6 a translator configured to retrieve correspondence information and translate
7 the retrieved correspondence information into a format utilized by an operating system of
8 the first PDA device; and
9 an interface port, coupled to the translator, for transmitting the
10 correspondence information to the first PDA device via a wireless channel.

a computer-controlled device, configured to provide correspondence information to the data dispenser, where the data dispenser is further configured to receive correspondence information from the computer-controlled device, the interface port further receives correspondence information from the computer-controlled device, and the translator further translates the received correspondence information into a standardized format for storage in the memory.

20. The data transfer system of claim 19 wherein the computer-controlled device comprises one of a personal computer and a second PDA device.